

Braintree Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the year 1909.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report dealing with the Sanitary work and the Statistics of the District for the year 1909. The past year has been an exceptionally wet one and the average temperature lower than for some years. In spite of these adverse conditions the mortality in the District is less than that of 1908 and less than the average mortality for the preceding decade. One point however will be remarked in looking at Table IV. of the Vital Statistics; and that is the large proportion of deaths at 65 years and over. The severe weather has doubtless been a factor in the mortality amongst old people.

The number of Births is equal to the average for the last 10 years but the Birth rate is not high for a Rural District. The Infantile Mortality is low, only 23 deaths occurring in infants under one year, 10 of these being under one month in age. It is worthy of note that only one infant died from intestinal disorders. This is satisfactory in showing that Epidemic Diarrhoea, due to error in feeding or contaminated food material is not prevalent in the District.

Causes of Death.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia were the cause of death in no fewer than 40 cases, Cancer in 22, Heart diseases in 22 and Phthisis in 11. The number of deaths from Cancer is very high in proportion to the population. The distribution was as follows:—

Bocking	9.
Finchingfield	5.
Coggeshall	6.
Witham	2.

The deaths from Phthisis were less than in 1908, being 11 as against 20. Disinfection is carried out after every case of death from this cause. Also, wherever it is desirable to do so rooms are disinfected after fatal cases of Cancer and certain septic conditions in addition to notifiable diseases.

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

Until the last two months of the year there was a remarkably small number of cases of notifiable disease, the number for the whole year being only 33 as compared with 59 in 1908.

There were 16 cases of Scarlet Fever, half of them occurring in the Witham District, mostly at Hatfield Peverel. This outbreak was directly traceable to infection imported from outside the District. After closing the School at Hatfield Peverel for three or four days and disinfecting, no further cases occurred. All the eight cases were removed to Hospital. There were three cases of Enteric Fever, two in Bocking and one in Coggeshall. Both the Bocking cases were removed to Hospital. There were eight cases of Diphtheria, six in Coggeshall (four of these in one house) and one each in Bocking and Witham. The two latter were removed to Hospital. One of the Coggeshall cases proved fatal, this being the only death from notifiable disease. The remaining six cases were Erysipelas.

The subjoined list gives the incidence of Notifiable Disease in 1908 and 1909.

		1908.		1909.
Scarlet Fever	..	34	..	16
Diphtheria	..	5	..	8
Typhoid (Enteric Fever)	8	..	3	
Erysipelas	..	12	..	6
		—		—
Totals	..	59		33
		—		—

Infectious Diseases, other than Notifiable.

White Notley Schools were closed for three weeks for Measles and the Schools disinfected.

Hatfield Peverel Schools closed for disinfection (Scarlet Fever) for three days.

Water Supplies.

BOCKING.—I had hoped to be able to report this year that the Bocking Public Water supply was well on the way towards realisation. Unfortunately it was found at the second test pumping that a quite inadequate supply was to be obtained from the borehole at High Garrett. At present there is no definite Scheme formulated for boring elsewhere, but it is to be hoped that before my next Annual Report comes to be written, Bocking will have reasonable and early prospect of a public water supply.

COGGESHALLS AND KELVEDON.—The work of laying the Mains is now, happily, well on the way towards completion, and in the near future Coggeshalls and Kelvedon will be using the water from the well sunk at Coggeshall less than two years ago.

HATFIELD PEVEREL.—Samples of water were taken from a large number of Wells in this Parish and submitted for analysis to Dr. Thresh. With one exception they were condemned as unfit for domestic purposes. The needs of Hatfield Peverel for a pure public water supply are very urgent. For many years there may be no illness directly traceable to water supply, but in a Parish supplied as this is from a number of Surface Wells close together and deriving their water from soil highly impregnated with domestic sewerage and manurial matter, the incidence of a single case of Enteric Fever might, and in all probability would, lead to a considerable outbreak of the disease, not only at the time but for years afterwards.

BLACK NOTLEY.—Another open Public Well has been cleaned out, deepened and covered with a stone, a standpipe being erected. This makes five Public Wells in Black Notley which have been put in order.

Disposal of Sewerage.

HATFIELD PEVEREL.—The state of the Brewery ditch continues to be an intermittent source of nuisance and no satisfactory arrangement for putting this right has been arrived at.

The system including the Bury Lane Sewer needs to be extended to include the drainage at present running down an open ditch in Church Lane and also from the houses on the right hand side of the street going towards Chelmsford, including the "Swan" Inn. This matter was referred to in my Report of last year, and needs attention.

Inspection of the District.

The Inspector's Report will be found immediately after the Vital Statistics Tables. The Sanitary Inspector and I have visited and reported on a number of cottages and notices have been served on the Owners to remedy existing defects. Several cottages have been condemned as unfit for human habitation.

Factories and Workshops Act.

No case of Infectious Disease has occurred in a house where home-work is done. All the Factories and Workshops have been inspected and most of the home-workers visited.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. G. K. YOUNG.

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1909 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT.

Y EAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.					Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District. 9	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in District. 10	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District. 11	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	Rate*	Under 1 Year of age.			At all ages.					Number.	Rate*
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered 6	Number	Rate*						
								5						7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1899	19,734	432	21.9	40	92.5	331	15.8	..	3	1	328	16.6	
1900	"	388	19.7	29	74.7	288	14.6	..	8	0	282	14.3	
1901	18,106	354	19.5	46	129.9	276	15.2	27	14	1	262	14.5	
1902	"	355	20.5	17	47.9	275	15.2	39	8	0	268	14.8	
1903	"	363	20.9	30	82.5	244	13.5	55	12	0	232	12.8	
1904	"	379	17.8	33	87	261	14.4	49	14	3	247	13.6	
1905	"	323	19.5	29	89.7	260	14.3	35	17	4	246	13.6	
1906	"	371	20.7	22	59.3	282	15.5	48	13	2	273	15	
1907	"	347	19.1	27	75.6	241	13.3	53	11	1	229	12.6	
1908	"	366	20	35	98.3	273	15	48	15	3	261	14.3	
Averages for years 1899-1908	18,432	368	19.9	30.8	83.7	273	14.7	44.2	11.5	1.5	262	14.2	
1909	18,106	368	19.9	23	62.6	264	14.5	55	18	4	250	13.8	

*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums.

A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made is given below.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 62,291.

Total population at all ages	18,106	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	6,507
Average number of persons per house...	...	...	2.7

1. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District: The Union Workhouse, Bocking.

2. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District: The Joint Isolation Hospital, in the Braintree Urban District.

3. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District: The Cottage Hospital, Bocking.
Union Workhouse situate in the District (in Bocking).

TABLE II.—VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1909 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES	1.—BRAINTREE.				2.—BOCKING.				3.—FINCHINGFIELD.				4.—COGGESHALL.				5.—WITHAM.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1899	2097	40	34	5	5037	95	90	14	3826	87	42	4	6127	145	102	13	2647	61	25	4
1900	...	44	25	3	"	99	73	4	"	76	54	6	"	130	84	10	"	43	49	6
1901	1942	32	27	2	4664	99	70	13	3275	76	44	4	5819	101	97	16	2406	53	36	11
1902	"	39	28	2	"	91	59	6	"	67	49	3	"	113	99	4	"	37	31	2
1903	"	48	32	1	"	87	56	6	"	63	48	7	"	106	71	8	"	59	25	6
1904	"	41	28	1	"	103	73	11	"	59	48	5	"	123	73	9	"	53	39	5
1905	"	28	25	3	"	68	68	12	"	68	48	5	"	117	78	5	"	42	27	7
1906	"	45	33	1	"	100	60	9	"	60	52	3	"	118	83	4	"	48	45	3
1907	"	57	35	3	"	83	59	7	"	55	27	3	"	115	79	8	"	43	29	5
1908	"	48	21	3	"	100	76	13	"	62	51	7	"	109	79	7	"	47	34	5
Averages of years 1899—1908	1974	41.6	29.8	2.4	4738	92.5	63.1	9.5	3385	67.3	46.2	4.7	5880	117.8	84.5	8.4	2454	48.6	34	5.4
1909	1942	37	25	1	4664	88	76	6	3278	57	39	4	5819	126	80	7	2406	58	27	4

NOTES.—(a) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired be used for the whole district; and blocks 2, 3, &c. for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this table need not be filled up.

(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-column c of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")

(c) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.

(d) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I and IV, thus the totals of sub-columns a, b, and c should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12 respectively of Table I. The gross total of the sub-column c, should agree with the total of column 2 in Table IV, and the gross total of sub-columns d with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1909.
BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						Total Cases notified in each Locality.					No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each locality.					Total cases removed to Hospital.	
	At Age† — Years.						Braintree	Bocking (W)	Finchingfield	Coggeshall	Witham	Braintree	Bocking (W)	Finchingfield	Coggeshall	Witham		
	At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upw'd											
Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera .....	..	..	1	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Diphtheria (includg. Membranous croup)	..	..	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	6	..	..	12	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Scarlet Fever.....	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhus Fever .....	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Enteric Fever	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	33	1	1	18	9	4	..	6	7	10	10	..	3	6	1	9	..	19

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II and IV.
State in space below the name of the isolation hospital, if any, to which residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease are usually sent; Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated or if not within the district, state where it is situated and in what district. The name of the Authority by whom the Hospital is provided should also be given.
Mark (W) the locality in which a workhouse is situated.
Isolation Hospital: Braintree Joint Isolation Hospital, Braintree Urban District.
Total number of available beds, 18. Number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3.

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING YEAR 1909.
BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT.

(See Notes page 13).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of 'Residents' whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all Ages of "Residents" belonging to localities whether occurring in or beyond the District.					Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non- Residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 & upwards	Braintree	Bocking	Finchingfield	Coggeshall	Witham	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping-cough .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (incl. membranous croup)	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Croup .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever { Typhus .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Enteric .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Other continued .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic influenza .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea—See notes page 13 .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis —	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Gastritis — .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever— .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ..	11	..	..	..	..	8	3	..	5	2	3	1	3
Other tubercular disease	4	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	2	..	1
Cancer, malignant disease—See note	22	..	..	..	..	10	12	..	9	5	6	2	3
Bronchitis	28	4	..	..	..	3	21	2	10	4	11	1	2
Pneumonia	12	1	2	..	..	3	6	1	4	1	6	..	1
Pleurisy .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other disease of Respiratory organs ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	..
Venereal diseases	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
Premature Birth	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	4	..
Diseases and accidents of parturition	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	1	1	..
Heart diseases	22	..	..	..	1	10	11	1	6	5	8	2	..
Accidents	6	..	2	..	..	..	4	1	1	1	2	1	2
Suicides	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
All other causes	122	4	1	1	3	13	100	21	36	18	33	14	42
All causes	250	22	6	2	6	56	158	28	76	39	80	27	55

TABLE V.—INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1909.—BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under (One Year of age. (See Notes on page 13.)

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 week.	1-2 wks.	2-3 wks.	3-4 wks.	Total under (one month	MONTHS.										Total Deaths under 1 year.		
All Causes.	{	Certified Uncertified	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	10 ..	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12		
								.. 1 1 1
i. Common Infectious Diseases.	{	Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Diphtheria (including MembranousCroup)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
ii. Diarrhoeal Diseases.	{	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Diarrhoea, all form	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Enteritis, Muco-enteritis. Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
		Gastritis. Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
		Premature Birth	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
iii. Wasting Diseases	{	*Congenital Defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Injury at Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Want of Breast-milk, Starvation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Atrophy. Debility, Marasmus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
		*Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
iv. Tuberculous Diseases	{	Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
		*Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
		Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
v. Other Causes	{	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
		Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
		Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	5
		Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
		Suffocation, overlaying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Other Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		
*(See Notes to Table IV.)			9	..	1	..	..	2	1	1	..	2	..	1	1	2	1	1	22	

District (or sub-division) of Braintree Rural.

Population, (estimated to middle of 1909), 18,106.

Births in the year, 368.

Deaths in the year of Infants, 22.

Deaths from all causes at all ages, 250.

NOTES TO TABLES IV and V.

- (a) In Table IV., all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be *included* with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (column 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15 to be *included* among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be *excluded* from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of Table IV.
- (b) See Notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" in Table IV. should be the same as those in Tables II and III.
- (c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-residents," are in addition to being dealt with as in note (a,) to be entered in the last column of Table IV. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.
- (d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of Table IV. should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-column c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of Table IV. should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.
- *(e) Under the heading of "Diarrhoea" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic Diarrhoea, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhoea, Dysentery and Dysenteric, diarrhoea, Choleraic diarrhoea, Cholera and Cholera Nostras.
- Deaths from Diarrhoea secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.
- Deaths from Enteritis, Muco-Enteritis, Gastro-Enteritis and Gastritis, (see under the heading Diarrhoeal Diseases in Table V.) in Tables IV. and V. should be placed immediately below, but separately from, those enumerated under the heading Diarrhoea as defined by enumeration above. This is particularly important for deaths under one year of age, as many of the deaths in infancy returned as due to Enteritis are really caused by Epidemic Diarrhoea. In the course of years, by the adoption of this recommendation, it will be practicable to ascertain the probable amount of transfer between these different headings.
- (f) Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms. Thus: Under "Cancer" should be included deaths from Cancer, Carcinoma Malignant Disease, Scirrhus, Epithelioma, Sarcoma, Villous tumour, and Pappilloma of Bladder, Rodent Ulcer. Under Puerperal Fever" are to be included deaths from Pyæmia, Septicæmia, Sapræmia, Pelvic peritonitis, Peri-and Endo-Metritis occurring in the Puerperium.
- (g) Under "Congenital Defects" in Table V. are to be included deaths from Atelectasis, Icterus neonatorum, Navel hæmorrhage, Malformations and Congenital hydrocephalus.
- (h) Under "Tuberculous Meningitis" are to be included deaths from Acute hydrocephalus.
- (i) Under "Other Tuberculosis Diseases" are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis of bones, joints and other organs, Lupus and Scrofula.
- (j) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., IV., and V., attention has been given to the Notes on the Tables.

H. G. K. YOUNG,
Medical Officer of Health.

January 23rd, 1910.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Braintree Rural District on
the administration of the factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES & HOMEWORK

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspector of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	8	..	..
Workshops (including Workshop ..	61	..	..
Workplaces.. .. .. .	..	..	..
Homeworkers' Premises	132	..	..
Total	201	..	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Prosecu- tions.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness.....
Want of ventilation
Overcrowding
Want of drainage of floors
Other nuisances
†Sanitary accommodation— <i>Act not adopted.</i>				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 108).
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses
Failure as regards list of outworkers
Given out work to be done in { unwholesome (s. 101)
premises which are { infected (s. 110)
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or small-pox (s. 109)
TOTAL.....

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

†For districts not in London, state here whether section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been adopted by the District Council.

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

CLASS.	Number	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133) .....	...
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remedial under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act .....	...
Other	None	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	None	
Homework :	Number of	
<i>List of outworkers (s. 107) :—</i>		
List received	Lists	Out- workers
	2	64
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises—</i>		
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (s. 108)	Wearing Apparel	Other.
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises .....	...	...
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (s. 110) .....	...	..
Workshops on the Register— <i>No Register kept.</i>		

BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector.
during the year ending December 31st, 1909.

	NO. FOR YEAR.
1. Complaints received	16
2. Nuisances detected without complaint	105
3. Nuisances abated	115
4. Notices served	122
5. Summons taken out	6
6. Convictions	none.
7. Cottages inspected	124
8. Lodging Houses Inspected	none.
9. Fishmonger's Yards Inspected	3
10. Slaughter-houses Inspected	26
11. Knacker's Yards Inspected	4
12. Bakehouses Inspected	42
13. Dairies and Milk Shops Inspected	40
14. Cowsheds Inspected	64
15. Workshops and Workrooms Inspected	61
16. Filthy Houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875	1
17. Houses Disinfected	30
18. Schools Disinfected	3
19. Overcrowding abated	3
20. Houses placed in habitable repair.. .. .	18
21. Houses closed	2
22. Houses erected or re-built for which Water 'Certificates' were applied	13
23. "Certificates" granted	13
24. ,, deferred	none.
25. Wells sunk or improved supplies of Water afforded ..	25
26. Wells cleansed or repaired	15
27. Wells closed	none.
28. Houses connected with sewers	30
29. ,, with water mains	16
30. Earth, pail, or improved Privies constructed or existing Privies altered	60
31. Privies and W.C.'s repaired ; W.C.'s supplied with water	3
32. Cisterns cleansed, repaired or covered	2
33. Animals improperly kept removed	3
34. Samples of water taken for Analysis	5
35. Compensation paid for destruction of Infected Bedding	none.
36. Seizures of unsound Meat. &c.	none.

Signed, E. H. BRIGHT, M.R.I.P.H., M.I., Mun. E.

Inspector of Nuisances.